



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was mostly fully steady to firm. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate, good where ads and fast food promotions were present. Supplies were in good balance to short of full trade needs. In northern parts of the Midwest, snow storms affected deliveries. In the parts structure, wings were tight and firm. Breast items were balanced to close with premiums noted, and dark meat was no more than sufficient. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to light.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .50 cents to 69.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.25 cents last year on January 15, 2003.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	202.00
BREASTS - B/S	173.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	91.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	94.50
LEG QUARTERS	32.00
WINGS	112.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was firm. Retail demand was fair to moderate, good where ads attracted additional interest. Food service was light to moderate, best for active fast food promotions. Supplies of all sizes were well cleared to tight of full trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was brisk. Wings were tight, breast items were short to close, and dark meat was no more than adequate with leg quarters receiving increased attention. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to light, but mostly desirable.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was noted as fair to moderate during midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes remained in close balance and continued to command premiums. Movement through retail and distributive channels was about moderate. The market tone was fully steady to firm. In the parts complex, breast items were balanced with bone-in breasts noted in the closer position. Wings were short. The balance of cuts were clearing well.

MIDWEST The trade sentiment on whole broiler/fryers was steady to firm. Offerings were limited for the moderate trade interest. Demand into all channels was irregular; mostly fair and tapering into retail centers, while food service was moderate overall. A band of snow storms over the northern part of the region was slowing deliveries in Michigan and Wisconsin. Floor stocks were in a full range with weights desirable to lighter than desired. Parts trade was decent, best for wings and boneless/skinless breasts. Supplies of all items were in close balance. The market tone was firm on wings and fully steady to firm on all other items.

WESTERN The market tone was firm. Offerings remained in a fairly good position. Current buying activity was moderate. Fresh product was confidently held and sharp discounts were difficult to find. Retailer demand was moderate to good with best interest where features in progress. Floor stocks generally adequate. Trade sentiment fully steady on parts with wings still in the strongest position.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 01/10/04	2004	2003	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	206,536	203,492	+01
CHICKS PLACED	166,997	162,132	+03

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 207 million eggs in incubators during the week ending January 10, 2003. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier. Broiler

CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 167 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 10, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 27, 2003 through January 10, 2004 were 335 million, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 20-Feb-04 is estimated at 154.4 million head. This compares to 154.6 million head the previous week and to 153.7 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 149.1 million head and the composite weighted average price was 60.26 cents per pound.

JANUARY 13, 2004

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

JANUARY 14, 2004

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG
	(000)	RANGE				(000)	RANGE		
BREAST - B/S	860	145.00-226.00	150-154	158.46	BREAST - B/S	850	149.00-226.00	152-155	153.92
TENDERLOINS	226	147.00-216.00	147-150	155.08	TENDERLOINS	224	145.00-217.00	145-150	154.31
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				BREAST - LINE RUN	110	83.00-93.00	84-85	85.00
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	113	37.00-50.00	37-39	39.34	LEGS	103	38.00-50.00	38-39	39.71
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	626	26.00-30.00	27-28	27.51	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	616	26.00-30.00	27-28	27.54
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	755	30.00-34.00	30-32	31.18	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,095	30.00-33.00	30-32	31.11
WINGS (WHOLE)	300	108.00-117.00	108-110	110.38	WINGS (WHOLE)	300	110.00-118.00	110-112	112.27
WINGS (CUT)	520	124.00-135.00	125-128	127.39	WINGS (CUT)	584	123.00-136.00	127-130	129.90
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	95	90.00-101.00	-	94.21	B/S THIGHS	120	90.00-101.00	-	93.33

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
53.00 - 59.50	56.06	53.00 - 59.50	56.64	55.38

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was noted as fair and typical of midweek trading. Offerings of breast items were in close balance and commanding premiums. Dark meat cuts were generally sufficient. Wings were short. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair to moderate. The market tone remained firm on wings, fully steady to firm on breast items and steady to fully steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. JANUARY 13, 2004

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*					TRADING*			
BREAST - B/S	155		150.97	584,424	BREAST - B/S	155-160		153.31	595,009
TENDERLOINS	150		145.19	226,450	TENDERLOINS	150		148.53	124,550
BREAST - WITH RIBS	79-80		85.62	93,360	BREAST - WITH RIBS	81-82		86.08	77,280
BREAST - LINE RUN	79		82.85	91,880	BREAST - LINE RUN	81		81.25	84,600
LEGS	40-41		38.12	326,680	LEGS	40-41		38.79	391,400
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	30-31		30.17	549,948	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	30-31		30.90	397,551
DRUMSTICKS	37-38		39.77	160,260	DRUMSTICKS	37-38		41.11	179,540
THIGHS	36-37		43.04	86,460	THIGHS	37-38		43.37	66,160
B/S THIGHS	87-88		88.62	95,510	B/S THIGHS	87-88		91.32	99,460
WINGS (WHOLE)	109-110		110.83	174,560	WINGS (WHOLE)	110-111		114.35	136,160
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		11.93	26,040	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		11.82	46,440
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40		38.55	10,975	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40		34.22	15,920
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65		68.13	27,910	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65		69.87	21,280

 INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	01/14	01/13	01/12	01/09	01/12	01/09	01/07	01/05		
ALA	3,972	3,984	3,928	4,646	5.28	5.15	3,869	5.47		
ARK	5,113	5,067	5,144	5,211	5.29	5.07	5,159	5.24		
DELMARVA	2,238	2,246	2,228	2,696	5.55	5.34	2,271	5.59		
KY-LA-TN	1,994	1,949	1,959	1,962	5.04	5.00	1,999	5.04		
MISS	3,033	3,029	3,052	2,884	5.46	5.49	3,071	5.47		
NC	2,456	2,442	2,393	3,468	6.34	6.49	2,402	6.42		
TEXAS	2,416	2,484	2,453	2,516	4.84	4.84	2,453	4.65		
TOTAL	21,222	21,201	21,157	23,383	5.38	5.35	21,224	5.40		
MON-WED	63,073(A)						63,874(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 14-Jan is estimated to be 31,750,000 down 0.3 percent from a week ago and up 8.8 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,849,000; last year 29,173,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		91-97
ROASTERS 4# & UP		81-95
HENS UNDER 5#		-
HENS OVER 5#		60-63
DUCKS		-
RABBITS-WHOLE		-
RABBITS-CUT UP		-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	99-100
	DRY PACK	101-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	105
	DRY PACK	89-105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	89
DUCKS		152-175

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 17-JAN-04

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	01/17/04 (1)	01/10/04
THOUSAND HEAD		
BRO-FRY	162,400 (2)	156,475
LT HENS	1,664	1,310
HVY HENS	1,322	1,482
CHECK TOTAL	165,386	159,267

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 17-Jan-04 is 156.3 million head compared to 155.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 162.7 million head or 6.4 million more than estimated available. For week of 24-Jan-04 the estimated available is 157.4 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 01/12/04	124,766	43,000
AM 01/01/04	119,108	43,610
CHG	5,658	-610
PCT CHG	5	-1

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	01/12/04	01/05/04	01/13/03	01/12/04	01/05/04	01/13/03
PACIFIC COAST	6,277	6,241	7,845	3,023	4,985	5,214
LOS ANGELES	437	417	1,372	1,639	2,914	3,981

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 12, 2004

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	58-65
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	66-76

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 01/13/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	1.00	1.80	1.05	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	.29	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	2.25	4.25	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	5.25	-
PULLETS lb.	-	.30	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	1.50	-	BUNNIES ea.	1.00	13.75	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.95	1.20	1.10	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.60	1.75	1.14	DUCKS ea.	-	4.50	-
RABBITS lb.	.50	1.40	1.24	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.75	9.00	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	5.75	8.75	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS	47						

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending January 9, 2004

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Back & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	49.39	108.82	66.97	12.56	12.56	54.41
High	51.06	117.19	75.34	20.93	16.74	54.41
Mostly	50.23	117.19	75.34	20.93	16.74	54.41

SAN JUAN

Low	48.97	108.82	66.97	12.56	12.56	54.41
High	51.06	117.19	75.34	16.74	16.74	54.41
Mostly	50.23	108.82	66.97	16.74	12.56	54.41

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	49.39	108.82	66.97	12.56	12.56	56.50
High	51.06	117.19	75.34	16.74	16.74	56.50
Mostly	50.23	108.82	66.97	16.74	12.56	56.50

BECERRA

Low	49.39	108.82	66.97	12.56	12.56	56.50
High	51.06	117.19	75.34	20.93	16.74	56.50
Mostly	50.23	117.19	75.34	20.93	16.74	56.50

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was good and remained sufficient in keeping seller offerings in generally good balance to short of immediate needs, particularly on the 3.50 and 4.00 pound sizes Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to light. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 70 to 80 cents. Trade sentiment was firm. In the parts complex, supplies were well balanced to short.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	60-82
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	71.10
NO. OF BOXES	7,873

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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